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SECURITY INFORMATION

5 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF SE DIVISION

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities of SE/PC-1

1. Preparations for 1952 agent operations, continuing PW activities and an unsuccessful attempt to defect the Albanian delegate to the International Conference for the Protection of Children were the main operations undertaken during April by this Branch.

2. In the field of agent operations the plan to infiltrate the first 1952 team, a four man Zogist team, proceeded on schedule and this team was moved forward to the border in the last days of the month. Instructions were sent to the BQFIEND team which has spent the winter near Prizren, Yugoslavia ordering them to reinfiltate and begin 1952 operations. A request from the Project Chief for early delivery of Albanian Lek in support of 1952 operations brought to a head a problem that has been critical since early fall of 1951 when the Field Chief reported 1951 operational experience had convinced him that a ready supply of Lek was essential to agent survival and successful team operations. He are advised that Lek procurement has been given a priority designation by the appropriate office in the Finance Division but that no Lek have been obtained due to their practical non-existence on the world market. Headquarters' failure to meet the Field Chief's needs will curtail 1952 operations by at least 50 %. This problem obviously has serious ramifications on SE/PC-1 activities and demands forthright action by the office concerned.

3. Our vigorous PW campaign experienced a serious setback during April when a ban on PW flights was imposed on BQFIEND as a result of Enver Hoxha's charge made before the Second Congress of the Albanian Workers' Party that the NCPA was dropping poisoned food to the Albanian people. It is considered regrettable Hoxha's charge, interpreted by PY as an extension of the Soviet BW campaign, and has resulted in the hasty suspension of the successful propaganda supply drop operation. The ban against leaflet drops has been lifted but we are advised that resumption of the propaganda supply drop program is still under consideration.

4. Despite the acute shortage of Lek and the handicap imposed by the ban on the propaganda supply drop program, a survey of the widespread operations currently being mounted leads the Branch to believe the 1952 operational season will be busy and productive.

5. Final liquidation of

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5. Final liquidation of the main physical asset of project BQSPRED, the M/V Juanita, was not accomplished during the month. However, a bid considered by the field station to be adequate, has been received and is under careful consideration in CIA at this time. It is quite likely sale to this bidder, a wealthy Greek civilian, will be approved as there appears to be no possible present or potential use for the M/V Juanita within CIA.

Attachment: 2 (Project Reports)

SE/PC-1: EOW:ier

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MONTHLY PROJECT STATUS REPORT  
FOR MONTH INFORMATION  
April 1952

1. CRYPTONYM <b>BOFINED</b>	2. DIVISION OR BRANCH <b>SE/PO-1</b>	3. COUNTRY(S) <b>ALBANIA</b>	4. ESTIMATED COMPLETION PERCENT      DATE	
5. PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARAMILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT				
6. FINANCIAL MECHANISM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSIDY <input type="checkbox"/> PROPRIETARY <input type="checkbox"/> PURCHASE OF SERVICES				
7. PHASE <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> LIQUIDATING <input type="checkbox"/> TERMINATED				
8. FUNDING				
FY ALLOTMENTS TOTAL TO DATE	OBLIGATIONS CURRENT MONTH	FY OBLIGATIONS CUMUL. TO DATE	UNOBLIGATED BALANCE	
C      J	C      J	C      J	C      J	
9. NAME OF CASE OFFICER C      J	ROOM NO. <b>1115-J</b>	EXTENSION <b>671</b>	SIGNATURE	

10. FACTS, EVALUATION AND COMMENT: (Use additional plain sheet if necessary)

**A. Mission**

See Sections II and III, Part II of the "Country Plan for Albania" for a discussion of the cold war missions and tasks.

**B. Accomplishments****(1) Paramilitary**

a. There was no infiltration of BOFINED agent teams into Albania during the month of April.

b. However, the overland infiltration of the four man Zagist team is anticipated momentarily, as they reached their infiltration point on the Greek-Albanian border on April 28th. As previously reported, three members of this team conducted by Colonel Salami, Royal Aide-de-camp, were successfully moved from Alexandria, Egypt through Paris and Munich to Athens, Greece. The team's mission will be to make a general reconnaissance of the internal situation, contact certain Albanians known to have Zagist sympathies in the military and in government, and to recruit 10 - 12 young men to act as agents for future infiltration missions.

c. At the request of [      ], the program of supporting the four man team, which has wintered near Priaren, Yugoslavia, is being continued through June. Contact with the team via secret ink letters continued and confirmation was received that food packages and money orders safely reached them during the winter months. An S.I. letter of instructions has been sent ordering the team to re-infiltrate, to re-establish the WT link on 1 June and to prepare for a body and supply drop during the June or July moon period. At that time it is planned to add an additional WT operator to the team.

d. HCUA leaders have been instructed to maintain contact with the 4-man team originally dropped into Albania in November 1950 which recontacted the HCUA in February 1952. For nearly a year it was assumed this team had defected to the Yugoslavs but recent S.I. letters from the team attest to their loyalty and stated

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the team intended to cross the Yugoslav-Albanian border in mid April to resume operations.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current No.</u>	<u>Previous No.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Teams	0	0	9
Infiltrates	0	0	39
Exfiltrates	0	0	123
Active (Presently in Yugoslavia)	8	8	8
Defected to Yugoslavia	0	0	2
Captured	0	0	4
Killed	0	0	9
Status Unknown	3	3	3

e. No supply drops were attempted during the month of April.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current No.</u>	<u>Previous No.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Supply Missions	0	0	13
Supply Missions Successful	0	0	4
Total Weight	0	0	4 tons

(2) Political

a. Defection

An abortive attempt to defect Miss Vera Pojane, President of the Albanian Red Cross, was made in Vienna where Miss Pojane attended the International Conference for the Protection of Children as the Albanian delegate. Due to a last minute change of heart on the part of the BOPIEND principal agent, Georges Gogh of the NCPA General Committee, the operational plan had to be completely revised and efforts to contact Miss Pojane had to be made by a stranger rather than a lifelong acquaintance. Two overtures were made but this prominent figure in Albanian Communist circles did not respond. Whether she was negative to the approach or hamstrung by strict controls can not be determined.

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b. Psychological Warfare - The Voice of Free Albania, the BQFIEND clandestine transmitter located near Athens, continued its broadcast schedule of three transmissions daily during April. The general program format remained unchanged, with the standard division into news, talks and announcements. The Second Congress of the Albanian Workers' Party held from 31 March to the 8th of April provided an ideal target for the Voice of Free Albania and a series of vitriolic broadcasts on the proceedings of the Congress featured the April program schedule. Furthermore, the cabinet shakeup commented upon below also provided an excellent target of opportunity which was most effectively exploited.

Among the continuing campaigns which were pushed steadily during the period were the direct appeals to various groups within the country to abandon the Communist regime and support the nationalist movement. Appeals made earlier to members of the Communist party, civil servants and soldiers were repeated.

c. Publications

(1) The NCFA semi-monthly newspaper, Shqipëria, printed in Rome was published on schedule.

(2) 50,000 copies of the tenth issue of the miniature edition of Shqipëria were printed in New York per normal routine and sent to Athens to be used in air drops over Albania.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current No.</u>	<u>Previous No.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Shqipëria (issues)	2	2	39
Miniature Shqipëria (issues)	1	1	10
Miniature Shqipëria (copies)	50,000	50,000	500,000

d. The sixth issue of the NCFA newsletter was printed in Rome on the 11th of March and mailed to more than 3000 persons throughout the world. The seventh issue appeared on 7 April and was also given wide distribution. The newsletter will continue to be published irregularly in English, French and Italian.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current No.</u>	<u>Previous No.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Newsletter	1	1	7

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e. There was no propaganda supply drop over Albania during the current month. Unfortunately a drop scheduled for the Tirana area on the night of 3-4 April was cancelled at the eleventh hour due to Headquarters reaction to Enver Hoxha's charge made at the Workers' Party Congress that the NCFA was dropping poisoned food into Albania.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current Mo.</u>	<u>Previous Mo.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Prop/Supply cans	0	0	3100
Flour Bags	0	0	1000

f. There were no leaflet drops staged over Albania during April.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current Mo.</u>	<u>Previous Mo.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Leaflet	0	Unreported	3,713,000 plus

g. Political Developments - No significant political developments occurred during the month in respect to the NCFA. To date efforts to accomplish the proposed reorganization plan and subsequent broadening of the NCFA agreed to in principle at the March BCPLIND/VALUABLE London Conference have not been accomplished. Outside of the NCFA proper it is noteworthy to report that former King Zog dispatched Lufti Satfjet Tozan, a Turk of Bosnian birth well known in intelligence circles, on a mission to Tito in an effort to obtain Tito's views on the Albanian problem and an expression of neutrality on possible cooperation in the event of a Zog inspired coup in Albania.

h. Intelligence - As the important addresses given by Hoxha and Shehu to the Albanian Workers' Congress directly referred to the need for internal purges, the reorganization of the top echelons of the Central Committee and the shifts in the ministerial positions of the government that occurred in early April come as no surprise. In each instance it appears changes were made to satisfy Hoxha's need for scapegoats to explain away the failure of the government to meet its stated objectives.

The new Soviet Minister to Albania, K. D. Levyohkin, reached Durres by sea on 21 April. Levyohkin, a Balkan specialist, replaces D. S. Chuvahkin who has been away from his post of duty in Tirana since December.

(3) Economic

No report

(4) Support

a. Training - the team of Zogist followers has completed its infiltration training in Athens and is ready to begin operations.

W/T training of 3 Albanian infiltration candidates is continuing in Germany.

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Requests for clearance have been submitted on 5 Albanians as potential infiltrates. Upon receipt of clearance, these men will be trained in G/W techniques.

b. Recruitment - The results of assessments carried out by the two man assessment team, which was in Greece and Turkey during the month to survey prospective BOFIEND candidates, is presently being evaluated. It is evident from this report and earlier assessments a large reservoir of potential agent personnel does not exist in the Mediterranean area.

c. Administration - [ ] , formerly BOFIEND representative in Munich, Germany has been transferred to [ ] where he will serve as the executive and reports officer. [ ] on the BOFIEND staff in Munich since early 1951 has replaced [ ]

[ ] , contract agent [ ] , left this country after a three week TDY, during which time she was given varied agency training.

[ ] , covert associate, entered on his duties as covert BOFIEND cut-out with the officers of the NCFA in New York. [ ] replaces [ ]

#### C. Reactions

A detailed report of popular reaction to the BOFIEND propaganda supply program has been received in this office. The source of the report was a recently exfiltrated refugee who came over the Greek border from the Korce area. The report stated that most of the food packages were confiscated by the local police, although general knowledge of what the packages contained seemed to indicate that some of the populace had been brave enough to keep the food. The source pointed out that many of the villagers were fearful of keeping the food lest they be inadvertently given away by their children. In spite of the general tenor of the report, the source stated that general morale had been boosted by this indication of NCFA capabilities. The fact that Hoxha attacked the NCFA for dropping foodstuffs at the Congress is significant as it confirms our belief news of the propaganda supply drops has spread throughout Albania.

#### D. Conclusions

(1) Favorable conditions of which advantage was taken:

a. The attendance of Miss Pojani in Vienna where BOFIEND had access to her enabled the project to attempt to effect her defection.

b. The project P/W campaign was considerably strengthened during the month as satisfactory arrangements enabling our Rome representative to see copies of Albanian newspapers as soon as they reach Italy were completed.

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c. In April the Tirana radio station increased its broadcasting power appreciably which enabled our Athens monitoring staff to greatly improve the quality of its work. The BGFIEND P/W officer has reported this permits our broadcasts to be more timely.

**(2) Problems Encountered:**

A major problem confronting this office is the procurement of Albanian Lek for the support of infiltration operations. Since June, 1951 the appropriate office in the Finance Division has been aware that existing supplies of Lek on the world market were rapidly dwindling and unfortunately their intensive efforts to procure Lek have met with little success. From all reports this situation is not likely to improve. As our agents and others have reported gold and/or dollars are not usable in the country, the field has stated 1952 operations will be curtailed by at least 50 %, if the required Lek is not forthcoming.

Another important problem is the existence of a ban on the BGFIEND propaganda supply drop program. In early April when Hoxha's charge that the NCPA was dropping poisoned food into Albania was linked with the Soviet BW campaign, a ban was imposed on all PW flights over Albania. The ban against leaflet drops was lifted at the end of the month and it is hoped propaganda supply drops may be resumed in the near future.

**(3) Deficiencies noted and corrective action taken:**

Negative

**(4) Lessons learned:**

a. From our experience supporting the four-man team wintering near Prisren, Yugoslavia, we have learned it is quite possible to keep them supplied with food and money using the CARE organization as a vehicle.

b. Our unfortunate experience with Georges Gogh of the NCPA in connection with the plan to defect Vera Pojana is a fresh reminder that the Albanian exiles in NCPA, even those of his high calibre, are ruled by personal and party considerations rather than by unselfish devotion to the cause of Albanian freedom.

**(5) Course or courses of action to be taken:**

It is presently planned to continue to develop the project in accordance with the revised project outline, appropriate policy directives, and recent field operational meetings.

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FOR MONTH OF  
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<b>£        7</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>£        7</b>	<b>£        7</b>	
9. NAME OF CASE OFFICER <b>£        7</b>	ROOM NO. <b>135 J</b>	EXTENSION <b>672</b>	SIGNATURE	

10. FACTS, EVALUATION AND COMMENT: (Use additional plain sheet if necessary)

**A. Mission**

See Section III, sub-part D.1, Part II of the Albanian Country Plan for the priority cold war task of conducting active PW in Albania, for which this sub-project was originally designed.

**B. Accomplishments**

The Athens staff has received a new offer for the M/V "Jumita" on an "as is where is" basis. This bid is being seriously considered as the field considers it as an excellent way to satisfactorily dispose of the vessel.

The Air-Sea-Ritime Division has succeeded in listing the vessel and its specifications with a new yacht broker with extensive European contacts in hopes of finding other prospective buyers. They are also continuing to survey the needs of agency offices in an effort to find a new use for the vessel.

**C. Conclusions**

As indicated in the above paragraphs, efforts to sell the project's major asset are continuing. The field believes that this most recent bid is most promising and the interested offices within the agency are being so advised.

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